

Executive Registry

1 APR 1981

81-6826/

MEMORANDUM FOR NATIONAL FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE BOARD

SUBJECT: Avoidance of Use of SCI Sources and Methods
in Finished Intelligence Products

1. In order to improve protection of intelligence sources and methods that have been determined to warrant special control, all intelligence production elements shall take special care to ensure that data on such sources and methods are excluded to the extent possible from finished intelligence products. To provide this protection, producers of finished intelligence will:

- a. Avoid production which must be handled in compartments intended to protect collection efforts [] because it limits the utility of the product and/or results in proliferation of access to collection system-oriented compartments. 25X1
- b. Abide by the total prohibition against using in a product-oriented compartment (e.g., TK) any sensitive compartmented information that has been identified as warranting compartmentation in a collection-oriented special access program []. Such practice voids the utility of separating sources and methods from product information. 25X1
- c. Ensure that unavoidable references to sensitive compartmented intelligence sources are as non-specific as practicable. [] 25X1

2. Generalized discussion of compartmented collection capabilities is permitted in finished intelligence products provided that the products are themselves compartmented. Discussion of specific details concerning collection system sources or methods which are protected by special access programs should not normally be contained in finished intelligence. When treatment of a particular subject in finished intelligence products requires

CONFIDENTIAL

detailed discussion of compartmented sources and methods, a special supplement, appropriately controlled, is the preferred vehicle. Finished intelligence may contain discussion of gaps in intelligence collection on specific problems or areas, of the general capabilities of collection systems to provide indications warning and as a measurement of the reliability of sources to the extent that analytical judgments would be effected. ☐

25X1

3. The policy of constraint on the use of compartmented information on sources and methods in finished intelligence products applies to all Intelligence Community publications, including the NID, Interagency Memoranda, National Intelligence Estimates and Alert Memoranda. It also applies to all the finished intelligence production of individual agencies, including formal and informal memoranda and studies. ☐

25X1

/s/ William J. Casey

William J. Casey
Chairman